

- Mr. Mayor, I would like to say a few words to this council and to the people of Ottawa.
- The members of the Police Services Board have been working around the clock, using every tool at our disposal to bring this crisis to an end and to bring peace back to our city for all residents.
- The past 24 hours have been gut-wrenching.
- The departure of Chief Sloly was and is difficult. I thanked Chief Sloly for his service when he made his decision. I thanked him for the important work he did for the city, despite the fact that I was frustrated with the progress we've made to end this occupation of our city.
- Peter Sloly came to serve our city and was met with resistance inside the service from day one. He fought hard for progressive change on diversity, community policing, and a new approach to policing.
- His departure was a loss, but the Board has put a new plan in place, a new strategic direction to problems both immediate and those we have faced for too long.
- Today, I signed a contract to bring in a new Chief of Police. I recognize that this decision was made quickly, but in times of crisis, we must act decisively. The Board received a recommend list from the Solicitor General's office and unanimously approved a highly qualified, progressive candidate with impressive credentials.
- As this Council knows the Ottawa Police Services Board is separate from Council and is governed under the Police Services Act. We have full authority to appoint a new Chief. The Board was unanimous in moving swiftly in this direction given the unrepresented crisis we're facing.
- I will quote the Mayor's own words to me when I asked simply for the Chief to brief Council on an item of importance:

“The independent status of police services boards and limited role of municipal councils are hallmarks of the police governance model defined by the *Police Services Act* and its predecessor legislation. The PSA makes it clear that there is no role for Members of Council to direct the OPSB or OPS on policing matters.”

- Colleagues, we are at a turning point in this occupation, and I want to thank each member of the Board for their unanimous support to get us to this point. The plan in place, which the Board will be briefed on tomorrow, is the conditions we’ve created for a successful and peaceful end to this occupation.
- This motion is typical of Jim Watson. He let’s all his colleagues do the hard work and swoops in to get the credit. We’ve seen it time and time again.
- This is clearly an attempt to discredit me and every member of the Board. Unfortunately Jim, no one in this city thinks that you’re a leader right now.
- You’ve been undermining the Board from day one. You negotiated with terrorists, which resulted in 40 additional trucks parking right next to Parliament. You rolled the Red Carpet out for these occupiers instead of getting them out of our city.
- I can only imagine the damage you’ll do as Chair of the Board.
- I want to thank my colleagues who have been on the frontlines of this crisis, Jeff, Shawn, Matt, and Catherine. Your communities have been most impacted and the support that you have provided to your residents is unmatched.
- I want to thank the members of Police Board, Daljit, Bev, Robert, Carol Anne, Rawlson and Sandy. I appreciate all your efforts and support.
- Mr. Mayor, I recognize that you’ll have the votes for this motion. The Watson Club is lined up as per usual.

- I will leave with my head held high knowing that I have done all that I can to end this occupation and that I will continue to serve the residents of Gloucester-Southgate Ward.